# Using EPA Superfund PRG Calculators for RAL and RDD/IND Situations

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Superfund Remediation
and Technology Innovation (OSRTI)
Science and Policy Branch

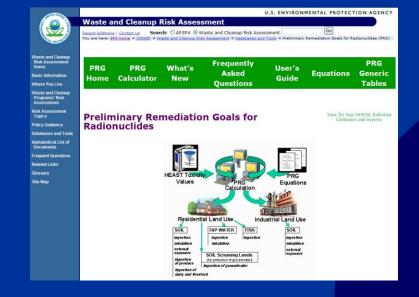
Presented to the Session on RDD and other Nuclear Weapons WM 2011 Symposia in Phoenix, AZ on March 2, 2011



### **Purpose**

- Provide overview of Preliminary Remediation Goal (PRG) and Dose Compliance Concentration (DCC) calculators
- Describe how PRG calculators may be used for RALs
- Describe how PRG and DCC calculators may be used for RDDs and INDs during late-phase under DHS PAGs





# 1. PRG and DCC calculator overview





### **CERCLA standards & policies**

- Where ARARs are not available or protective, EPA sets site-specific cleanup levels that:
  - » For carcinogens, represent an increased cancer risk of 1 x 10<sup>-6</sup> to 1 x 10<sup>-4</sup>
    - -10<sup>-6</sup> used as "point of departure"
- ◆ Dose assessment only for ARAR compliance
- ◆ TBC's (including concentration recommendations) should be used only if protective under CERCLA
  - » within 10<sup>-6</sup> to 10<sup>-4</sup> using CERCLA risk assessment methodology



### **CERCLA Risk and Dose Calculators**

### **Human Health**

### Cancer risk (1 x 10<sup>-6</sup>)

- ◆ PRG (soil, water and air)
- ◆ BPRG (inside buildings)
- ◆ SPRG (outside surfaces)

### Dose (millirem per year)

- ◆ DCC (soil, water and air)
- ◆ BDCC (inside buildings)
- ◆ SDCC (outside surfaces)

### **Ecological**

◆ REB (aquatic, riparian, terresterial, plants and animals



### **Guidance: Rad PRG Calculator**

- Calculator to establish PRGs, when:
  - » ARAR is either not available or sufficiently protective (e.g., 25 mrem/yr [0.25 mSv/yr] or more)
- ◆Electronic equations (risk and leaching to groundwater) also are on Internet
  - » 1x10<sup>-6</sup> and MCLs (leaching from soil)
  - » Accounts for technical differences of radiation (e.g., gamma, plant uptake)



## **Guidance: Rad PRG Calculator** (continued)

- Seven scenarios/land uses available
  - 1. Residential

- 5. Composite workers
- 2. Agricultural
- 6. Fish ingestion
- 3. Indoor workers 7. Tap water
- 4. Outdoor workers 8. Soil to groundwater
- Chemical SSL Internet equations should be used for chemical toxicity of uranium
- EPA developed Internet-based training with States (ITRC) on calculator and radiation risk assessment
  - http://www.clu-in.org/conf/itrc/rads\_051507/

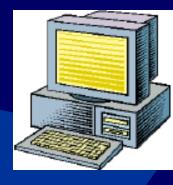


### **Guidance: ARAR Dose Calculator**

- Calculator to establish Dose Compliance Concentrations (DCC) for single dose limit ARARs requiring a dose assessment
- ◆Six scenarios/land uses available
  - 1. Residential

  - 3. Indoor workers 7. Tap water

- 5. Composite workers
- 2. Agricultural 6. Fish ingestion
- 4. Outdoor workers 8. Soil to Groundwater
- Equations similar to those used for PRG calculator, except dose conversion factors used instead of slope factors





## **EPA/ITRC Radiation Risk Training**

- Four modules provide:
  - 1. Background and Regulatory Case Studies
  - 2. Existing Practices in Radiation Risk Assessment
  - 3. Use of Radiation PRG Calculator (tutorial on using PRG and ARAR dose calculator)
  - 4. Case Study Application for PRG Calculator



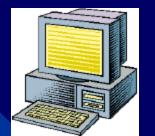
## EPA/ITRC Radiation Risk Training, cont.

- Eight Live Internet rad CERCLA Policy Training sessions have been conducted
  - » 1,047 total participants, including 165 EPA employees
- An archived version of a live training session is available at:
  - » http://www.clu-in.org/conf/itrc/rads\_051507/
- ◆ Archived version was accessed by users 1,710 times between January 1, 2008 and August 26, 2009.



# Guidance: Building PRG (BPRG) Calculator

- Calculator to establish 1x10<sup>-6</sup> risk based PRGs for the reuse of radioactively contaminated buildings.
- Equations and parameters are derived from latest EPA chemical methodology (e.g., assessment at WTC)
  - » Adjusted to account for technical differences posed by radiation
- EPA and ITRC Internet-based training on BPRG calculator and D&D
  - » http://www.clu-in.org/conf/itrc/radsdd\_040308/

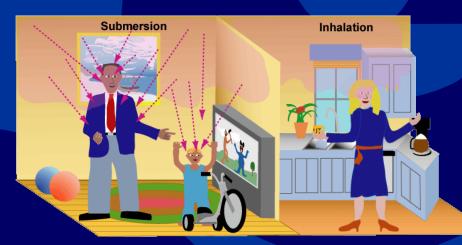


# Guidance: Building PRG (BPRG) Calculator (continued)

- ◆BPRG calculator includes 2 land use scenarios
  - » Residential
  - » Indoor worker
- Both land uses include 3 exposure routes
  - » Settled dust
  - » Ambient air
  - » Direct external exposure
    - —5 Room sizes and 4 receptor locations, both
      - -Surface

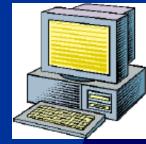


-Volumetric



## **Building Dose Cleanup Concentrations** (BDCC) ARAR Dose Calculator

- ◆BDCC Purpose: to establish BCCs for Inside Buildings for single dose limit ARARs (# mrem/yr)
- ◆BDCC includes 2 land use scenarios (Residential, Indoor Worker)
- ◆2 land uses include 3 exposure routes (Settled dust, Fixed Direct External 3-D, Ambient Air)
- Equations similar to those used for BPRG calculator, except dose conversion factors used instead of slope factors





## Surfaces PRG (SPRG) Calculator

- ◆ Establish 1 x 10<sup>-6</sup> risk based PRGs for radioactively contaminated *outside* hard surfaces (e.g., slabs, pavement, sidewalks, sides of buildings)
- Derived from rad PRG and BPRG calculators





## **SPRG Exposure Scenarios**

- SPRG includes 3 land use scenarios
  - » Residential
  - » Indoor Worker
  - » Outdoor Worker
- ◆ 3 land uses include 3 exposure routes
  - » Settled dust (pave and unpaved street level)
  - » Fixed Direct External 3-D (street level)
    - —Surface and Volumetric
  - » Fixed Direct External 2-D (slabs)
    - —Surface and Volumetric





## Surface Dose Cleanup Concentrations (SDCC) ARAR Dose Calculator

- SDCC Purpose: to establish DCCs for Outside Hard Surfaces for single dose limit ARARs (# mrem/yr)
- SDCC includes 3 land use scenarios (Residential, Indoor Worker, Outdoor Worker)
- ◆3 land uses include 3 exposure routes (Settled dust, Fixed Direct External 3-D, Fixed Direct External 2-D (slabs))
- Equations similar to those used for SPRG calculator, except dose conversion factors used instead of slope factors

### **EPA/ITRC Radiation D&D Training**

- Four modules provide:
  - 1. Introduction and Regulatory Basis for D&D
  - 2. Factors for Implementing D&D
  - 3. Preliminary Remediation Goal (PRG) Calculators (tutorial on using BPRG, SPRG, BDCC, and SDCC calculators)
  - 4. Case Studies and Lessons Learned





## 2. Using PRG calculators for RALs



### RAL Approach

- ◆Risk-based Removal Action Levels (RALs) for carcinogens generally are based on a 1 x 10<sup>-4</sup> cancer risk.
  - »Not 1 x 10<sup>-6</sup> like PRGs
- ◆RALs typically are used to help define areas, contaminants and conditions that may warrant an emergency or a time-critical removal action at a site.



### Using PRG Calculators for RALs

- To develop RALs based on the PRG calculator, either
- 1. multiply the PRG results from either the tables on the PRG "Download" page or the default option for the PRG "Search" page by 100; or,
- 2. select the site-specific on the PRG "Search" page and change the TR (target cancer risk) from 1.0E-6 to 1.0E-4.



### **Guidance language**

This explanation appears in FAQ section of each PRG calculator (PRG, BPRG, SPRG)

PRG Home PRG Calculator What's New

# Frequently Asked Questions

User's Guide

**Equations** 

PRG Generic Tables

4. How do PRGs differ from Removal Action Levels (RALs)?

Risk-based RALs for carcinogens generally are based on a  $1 \times 10$ -4 cancer risk. RALs typically are used to help define areas, contaminants and conditions that may warrant an emergency or a time-critical removal action at a site. To develop RALs based on the PRG calculator, we recommend either (1) multiply the PRG results from either the tables on the PRG "Download" page or the default option for the PRG "Search" page by 100; or, (2) select the site-specific on the PRG "Search" page and change the TR (target cancer risk) to 1.0E-4. Most of the radionuclides under the Soil to Groundwater scenario use MCLs as a target protective level so these two methods for adjusting PRG results would not apply.



## Generic PRG run approach

Run PRG calculator with default settings

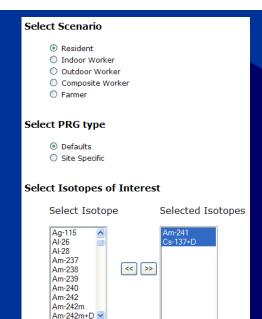
PRG PRG
Home Calculator

What's New Frequently Asked Questions

User's Guide

Equations

PRG Generic Tables





## Generic PRG run approach, cont

- ◆Multiple results by 100
  - »Am-241 PRG of 1.86E+00 becomes RAL of 1.86E+02
  - Cs-137 PRG of 5.99E-02 becomes RAL of 5.99E+00

### Default Resident PRGs for Soil

	Inhalation Slope Factor (risk/pCi)	(risk/yr per	Food Slope Factor	Soil Ingestion Slope Factor (risk/pCi)	Volatilization Factor	Factor		Wet Soil-to-plant transfer factor	Ingestion PRG (pCi/g)	Inhalation PRG (pCi/g)		Produce Ingestion PRG (pCi/g)	
Am-241	2.81E-08	2.76E-08	1.34E-10	2.17E-10	-	1.36E+09	1.60E-03	1.00E-03	3.75E+00	2.62E+02	4.14E+00	4.00E+01	1.86E+00
Cs-137+D	1.19E-11	2.54E-06	3.74E-11	4.33E-11	-	1.36E+09	2.31E-02	4.00E-02	2.54E+01	8.38E+05	6.08E-02	4.85E+00	5.99E-02



### **Generic Tables approach**

- **♦ Click on PRG Generic Tables**
- ◆Click on Appropriate Table

PRG PRG What's Home Calculator New Frequently Asked Questions Guide Guide Tables

#### Preliminary Remediation Goals for Radionuclides

Topic for Key OSWER Radiation Guidances and Reports

#### **Download Area**

The PRG tables are available for download in Excel and PDF formats. The tables contain both PRG calculations for all land uses presented on the PRG site as well as toxicity values.

#### **Excel spreadsheets**

PRGs in activity (pCi) units PRGs in activity (Bq) units PRGs in mass (mg) units

#### PDF



## Generic Tables approach, cont

- ◆Pick radionuclides
- ◆Multiply by 100

				Tovi	nit.				Drolimi	nani Damar	listian Casl	· (DDC)		Soil to Cr	sundwater
		Toxicity						Preliminary Remediation Goals (PRG)						Soil to Groundwater	
		Soil Ingestion	Soil Ingestion	-	Food Ingestion		External Exposure	Residential	Agricultural	Outdoor	Indoor	Тар	Fish		
Element		Slope Factor	Slope Factor-Adult	Slope Factor	Slope Factor	Slope Factor	Slope Factor	Soil	Soil	Worker Soil	Worker Soil	Water	Ingestion	DAF=20	DAF=1
(Atomic Number)	Isotope	(risk/pCi)	(risk/pCi)	(risk/pCi)	(risk/pCi)	(risk/pCi)	(risk/y per pCi/g)	(pCi/g)	(pCi/g)	(pCi/g)	(pCi/g)	(pCi/L)	(pCi/g)	(pCi/g)	(pCi/g)
Actinium (89)	Ac-223						1.55E-08	3.58E+07	3.58E+07	5.83E+07	1.31E+08				
Actinium (89)	Ac-224	1.53E-11	2.77E-12	5.59E-12	8.03E-12	4.07E-10	6.06E-07	1.15E+04	1.15E+04	1.89E+04	4.24E+04	8.52E+00	2.20E-01		
Actinium (89)	Ac-225	5.18E-10	9.03E-11	1.89E-10	2.71E-10	2.86E-08	4.50E-08	6.36E+02	4.77E+02	2.44E+03	5.23E+03	2.52E-01	6.51E-03		
Actinium (89)	Ac-226	2.00E-10	2.84E-11	6.92E-11	1.01E-10	4.33E-09	4.46E-07	1.46E+03	1.41E+03	2.54E+03	5.71E+03	6.88E-01	1.75E-02		
Actinium (89)	Ac-227	3.81E-10	2.01E-10	2.01E-10	2.45E-10	1.49E-07	3.48E-10	2.53E+00	1.35E+00	1.14E+01	2.10E+01	2.37E-01	7.20E-03		
Actinium (89)	Ac-227+D	1.16E-09	3.45E-10	4.86E-10	6.53E-10	2.09E-07	1.47E-08	1.04E-01	8.31E-02	2.09E-01	4.67E-01	9.80E-02	2.70E-03		
Actinium (89)	Ac-228	5.55E-12	9.10E-13	1.99E-12	2.89E-12	4.92E-11	4.53E-06	7.32E+02	7.31E+02	1.19E+03	2.69E+03	2.39E+01	6.10E-01		
Aluminum (13)	Al-26	4.70E-11	8.18E-12	1.73E-11	2.49E-11	6.92E-11	1.33E-05	8.38E-03	6.28E-03	1.64E-02	3.70E-02	2.75E+00	7.08E-02		
Aluminum (13)	Al-28						9.32E-06	5.84E+04	5.84E+04	9.53E+04	2.14E+05				
Americium (95)	Am-237	1.24E-13	3.12E-14	5.07E-14	7.18E-14	5.77E-14	1.35E-06	1.24E+04	1.23E+04	2.02E+04	4.54E+04	9.39E+02	2.46E+01	3.54E+12	1.77E+11
Americium (95)	Am-238	2.28E-13	5.96E-14	9.62E-14	1.35E-13	9.51E-14	4.02E-08	3.09E+03	3.09E+03	5.05E+03	1.14E+04	4.95E+02	1.31E+01	1.03E+12	5.17E+10
Americium (95)	Am-239	3.89E-12	5.99E-13	1.38E-12	2.01E-12	8.40E-13	6.91E-07	2.47E+03	2.16E+03	4.03E+03	9.07E+03	3.45E+01	8.77E-01	1.36E+09	6.79E+07
Americium (95)	Am-240	6.81E-12	1.27E-12	2.59E-12	3.70E-12	1.41E-12	4.69E-06	8.53E+01	8.21E+01	1.39E+02	3.13E+02	1.84E+01	4.77E-01	3.97E+07	1.98E+06
Americium (95)	Am-241	2.17E-10	9.10E-11	1.04E-10	1.34E-10	2.81E-08	2.76E-08	1.87E+00	1.32E-02	5.67E+00	1.19E+01	4.58E-01	1.32E-02	2.58E+00	1.29E-01
Americium (95)	Am-242	5.14E-12	7.51E-13	1.79E-12	2.62E-12	5.03E-11	3.48E-08	3.57E+04	7.82E+03	5.94E+04	1.34E+05	2.66E+01	6.73E-01	5.79E+08	2.90E+07

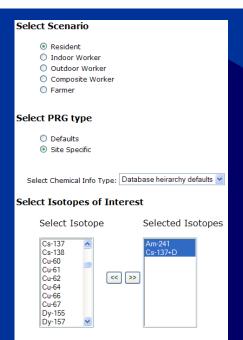


## **Target Risk Approach**

◆Run the calculator with "Site-Specific" option

PRG PRG What's Frequently
Home Calculator New Questions

Frequently
Asked Guide Equations





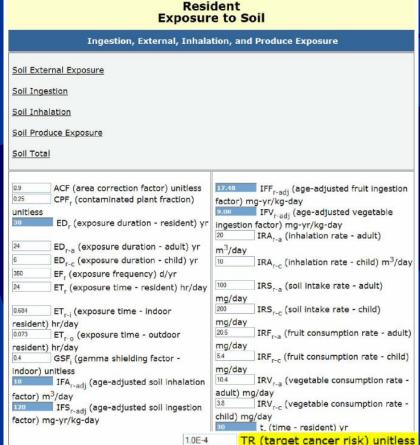
**PRG** 

Generic

**Tables** 

## Target Risk Approach, cont

◆Change Default Target risk to 1x10<sup>-4</sup>





### **Caveats**

- PRG soil to groundwater scenario, usually based on MCL protection so multiplying by 100 not appropriate
- BPRG site-specific approach will require user to pick a room size and receptor location
- SPRG state-specific approach will require user to pick state and roadway class
- ◆SPRG site-specific approach will require user to pick building heights, receptor location, slab size, and input lots of data on car and truck traffic.





# 3. Using PRG and DCC Calculators for RDDs and INDs





### **DHS PAG**

- Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in 2008 issued guidance on responses to radiological and nuclear terrorist incidents
  - » "Planning Guidance for Protection and Recovery Following Radiological Dispersal Device (RDD) and Improvised Nuclear Device (IND) Incident."

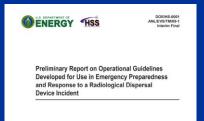
epa

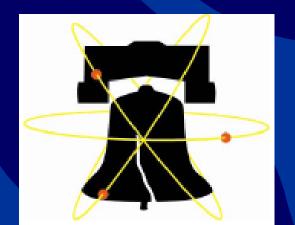
PHASE	PROTECTIVE ACTION	DHS RDD/IND PROTECTIVE ACTION GUIDE						
Early	Limit Emergency Worker Exposure	Normally 5 rems, higher values under emergency circumstances as needed						
	Sheltering of Public	1 to 5 rem projected dose, normally initiated at 1 rem						
	<b>Evacuation of Public</b>	1 to 5 rem projected dose, normally initiated at 1 rem						
	Administration of Prophylactic Drugs	For KI, FDA Guidance dose values. For other drugs, consider on an ad hoc basis						
Intermediate	Limit Worker Exposure	5 rems in compliance with OSHA regulations						
	<b>Relocation of General</b>	2 rems, projected dose 1 <sup>st</sup> Year						
	Public	Any subsequent year: 500 mrem projected dose						
	<b>Food Interdiction</b>	500 mrem projected dose						
	Drinking Water Interdiction	500 mrem dose						
Late	Final cleanup actions	Site specific level based on Optimization						



## DHS PAG: Early and Intermediate Phase

- DHS PAG envisions using DOE Operational Guidelines for early and intermediate phases
  - »However, at Liberty RadEx, Pennsylvania used concentrations from DOE and EPA (DCC, BDCC, and SDCC) model runs for relocation concentrations







# EPA CERCLA-like Approach may be used under Optimization

- ◆10<sup>-4</sup> to 10<sup>-6</sup> or higher risk levels
  - » May consider risk levels outside CERCLA risk range (10<sup>-3</sup>, 10<sup>-2</sup>)
- **♦**ARARs
- ◆NCP 9 criteria
- ◆OSWER directives and tools
  - »Including PRG, BPRG, and SPRG calculators



# Using PRG/DCC Calculators for RDD/IND Events

- **♦** Just like CERCLA sites:
  - » Defaults in PRG/DCC calculators may be modified with site-specific information
  - Site managers should weigh cost of collecting data against utility of generating site-specific PRGs



# Using PRG/DCC Calculators for RDD/IND Exercises

- ◆To use calculators for a risk assessment for exercises, some assumptions should be made.
- ◆Following pages discuss several key assumptions that would generally be made for exercises.
- ◆ Some of these exercise assumptions require additional spreadsheet work outside of calculator.



# RDD/IND Exercise Assumptions – Outdoor Resuspension of Dust

- Change windblown resuspension rates to match area of the country of exercise (not Minneapolis default)
- ◆SPRG/SDCC dust on streets scenario, change to correct state and roadway class for mechanical resuspension (not urban California highway default)







## RDD/IND Exercise Assumption – Intrusion Indoors of Contaminants

- In areas where public is relocated, I assume 50% based on studies of 2 buildings near WTC ground zero
- In areas where public is not relocated, I assume 2 times value based on study of indoor dust at contaminated sites



# RDD/IND Exercise Assumptions – Indoor Resuspension Rate

- ◆EPA policy with WTC event and BPRG calculator is not to model resuspension indoors, should be measured not modelled.
- ◆For exercises I have used rate of 1 x 10<sup>-4</sup> m<sup>-1</sup> based on Los Alamos and NAS reports.



# RDD/IND Exercise Assumptions – Weathering away of contaminants

- ◆NARAC plume maps for PAG dose recommendations assume a weathering rate
- ◆To develop similar risk-based plumes, need to:
  - » factor in amount of weathering that would take place to reach risk-based contours, then
  - »plot initial deposition that would result in riskbased levels in ## days



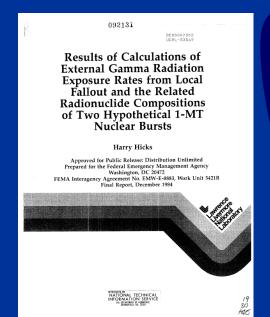
# IND Fallout Challenges for Risk Assessment

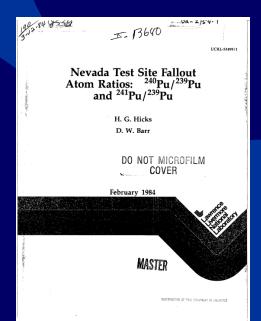
- ◆Initial IND detonation includes over 900 radionuclides
- ◆1 year after detonation, almost all risk posed by 38 radionuclides.



## **Solving IND Fallout Challenge**

◆Data is available on the mix of those 38 radionuclides for 10 time periods ranging from 1 to 50 years







## Solving IND Fallout Challenge, continued

- ◆Mix depends on if:
  - » U-235 or U238 is fissionable material
  - Debris either unfractionated, or either 0.5 or 0.1 of refractory elements present



# Solving IND Fallout Challenge, Implementation

- Develop ratio of concentration of Cs-137 to 37 radionuclides
  - »NARAC can model concentrations of Cs-137 for IND
- Run risk assessment with Superfund methodology to determine what % of total risk is from Cs-137 for a given land use



## Solving IND Fallout Challenge, Done

♦If Cs-137 is 5% of total cancer risk from IND mix at year 1, and 100 pCi/cm² of Cs-137 = 1 x 10<sup>-4</sup>, then the 1 x 10<sup>-4</sup> plume contour line will be based on 5 pCi/cm² of Cs-137





### **For More Information**

### For further information or questions:

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### **Questions**



